

Description of the Outstanding Service by an Individual Awards

SCPTA Outstanding Principal of the Year

Purpose: To recognize the exemplary service of a school administrator (principal or assistant principal) towards promoting and upholding the Mission, Vision, Values, and Purposes of PTA at his/her school.

Eligibility: Nominees for this award should fully support and engage in the efforts and achievements of the PTA/PTSA unit at his/her school. Nominees must be a current PTA member at the PTA/PTSA school at which they are employed as the principal or an assistant principal. Previous recipients of this award are ineligible to receive this award again for five (5) years. **One elementary school-level winner, one middle school-level winner, and one high school-level winner will be selected from all applications submitted by March 1.**

SCPTA Outstanding Teacher of the Year

Purpose: To recognize the exemplary service of a certified teacher towards promoting and upholding the Mission, Vision, Values, and Purposes of PTA at his/her school.

Eligibility: Nominees for this award should fully support and engage in the efforts and achievements of the PTA/PTSA unit at his/her school. Nominees must be a current PTA member at the PTA/PTSA school at which they are employed as a certified teacher. Previous recipients of this award are ineligible to receive this award again for five (5) years. **One elementary school-level winner, one middle school-level winner, and one high school-level winner will be selected from all applications submitted by March 1.**

SCPTA Outstanding Support Staff Member of the Year

Purpose: To recognize the exemplary service of a faculty or school staff member towards promoting and upholding the Mission, Vision, Values, and Purposes of PTA at his/her school.

Eligibility: Nominees for this award should fully support and engage in the efforts and achievements of the PTA/PTSA unit at his/her school. Nominees must be a current PTA member at the PTA/PTSA school at which they are employed. Nominations may be submitted for non-certified faculty members, school healthcare staff members, custodial or cafeteria staff members, media center specialists, and other employees who have performed a valuable service to the school. Previous recipients of this award are ineligible to receive this award again for five (5) years. **One elementary school-level winner, one middle school-level winner, and one high school-level winner will be selected from all applications submitted by March 1.**

SCPTA Outstanding Volunteer of the Year

Purpose: To recognize the exemplary service of a school or district volunteer towards promoting and upholding the Mission, Vision, Values, and Purposes of PTA at his/her school.

Eligibility: Nominees for this award should fully support and engage in the efforts and achievements of the PTA/PTSA unit at his/her school. Nominees must be a current PTA member. Nominations may be submitted for parents, grandparents, adult siblings of students, guardians, business partners, community members, and other adults who have performed a valuable service to the school. **One elementary school-level winner, one middle school-level winner, and one high school-level winner will be selected from all applications submitted by March 1.**

SCPTA Outstanding Student Volunteer of the Year

Purpose: To recognize the exemplary service of a PTSA student volunteer towards promoting and upholding the Mission, Vision, Values, and Purposes of PTA at his/her school.

Eligibility: Nominees for this award should fully support and engage in the efforts and achievements of the PTA/PTSA unit at his/her school. Nominees must be members of the PTSA at their school (having a parent who is a member while the student is not a member is not sufficient). Previous recipients of this award are ineligible to receive this award again for three (3) years. **One elementary school-level winner, one middle school-level winner, and one high school-level winner will be selected from all applications submitted by March 1.**

Description of the Outstanding Service by a Local Unit and District Awards

SCPTA Outstanding Local Unit of the Year

Purpose: To recognize a local PTA in South Carolina that is engaging in District, State, and National PTA programs and whose collaborative efforts with parents, families, educators, and community members promote family involvement in ongoing programs that encourage student success. The **PTA National Standards for Family-School Partnerships** are a framework for how families, schools, and communities should work together to support student success. You can use the National Standards to develop, evaluate, and improve engagement practices at your school. Successful applications will demonstrate an understanding of the standards through policies, programs, and/or activities implemented. The strongest applications will show systemic change and will be able to quantify their impact

Eligibility: Any PTA/PTSA in South Carolina may apply for this award. To apply, unit must complete the application and follow the instructions for completing a narrative addressing the unit's implementation of the **PTA National Standards for Family-School Partnerships**. Submit two (2) copies of the application and all supporting documentation and attachments to the SCPTA by the deadline. Applications must be complete and submitted on time. Incomplete or late applications will not be reviewed.

One elementary school-level winner, one middle school-level winner, and one high school-level winner will be selected from all applications submitted by March 1.

SCPTA Outstanding District of the Year

Purpose: To recognize a district PTA in South Carolina that is engaging in District, State, and National PTA programs and whose collaborative efforts with parents, families, educators, and community members promote family involvement in ongoing programs that encourage student success. The **PTA National Standards for Family-School Partnerships** are a framework for how families, schools, and communities should work together to support student success. You can use the National Standards to develop, evaluate, and improve engagement practices at your district. Successful applications will demonstrate an understanding of the standards through policies, programs, and/or activities implemented. The strongest applications will show systemic change and will be able to quantify their impact.

Eligibility: Any district in South Carolina may apply for this award. To apply, district must complete the application and follow the instructions for completing a narrative addressing the district's implementation of the **PTA National Standards for Family-School Partnerships**. Submit two (2) copies of the application and all supporting documentation and attachments to the SCPTA by the deadline. Applications must be complete and submitted on time. Incomplete or late applications will not be reviewed.

One district will be selected from all applications submitted by March 1.

Description of Awards of Excellence for Local Units

SCPTA Award of Excellence in [Membership Promotions](#)

Purpose: To recognize local units that exhibit excellence in promoting PTA Membership with innovative, comprehensive, and successful membership recruitment plans. (See Membership folder)

Eligibility: Units must have conducted the membership plan described during the current school year. All units in good standing are eligible to apply. One elementary school-level winner, one middle school-level winner, and one high school-level winner will be selected from all applications submitted by March 1.

SCPTA Award of Excellence in [Enrichment Programs](#)

Purpose: To recognize local units that exhibit excellence in planning innovative, meaningful, and diverse programs for both students and their families. (See Programs folder)

Eligibility: Units must have conducted the programs described during the current school year. All units in good standing are eligible to apply. One elementary school-level winner, one middle school-level winner, and one high school-level winner will be selected from all applications submitted by March 1.

SCPTA Award of Excellence in [Legislative Advocacy](#)

Purpose: To recognize local units that exhibit excellence in planning and promoting legislative advocacy throughout the year. (See Legislative folder)

Eligibility: Units must have conducted their legislative program during the current school year. All units in good standing are eligible to apply. **One elementary school-level winner, one middle school-level winner, and one high school-level winner will be selected from all applications submitted by March 1.**

SCPTA Award of Excellence in [Communications](#)

Purpose: To recognize local units that exhibit excellence in sharing and receiving communications with its members through innovative, comprehensive, and diverse means. (See Communications folder)

Eligibility: Units must present documentation of the communication tools used during the current school year. All units in good standing are eligible to apply. **One elementary school-level winner, one middle school-level winner, and one high school-level winner will be selected from all applications submitted by March 1.**

SCPTA Award of Excellence in [Family and Community Involvement](#)

Purpose: To recognize local units that exhibit excellence in encouraging and engaging school/family/community volunteer partnerships as a means to increasing student achievement, promoting a healthy learning environment for students, empowering parents as advocates, and promoting a spirit of fellowship within the school. (See Family Involvement folder)

Eligibility: Units must have conducted the volunteer program described during the current school year. All units in good standing are eligible to apply. **One elementary school-level winner, one middle school-level winner, and one high school-level winner will be selected from all applications submitted by March 1.**

SCPTA Award of Excellence in PTSA [Student Involvement](#)

Purpose: To recognize local units that exhibit excellence in encouraging and engaging school/family/community volunteer partnerships as a means to increasing student achievement and leadership skills, promoting a healthy learning environment, empowering parents as advocates, and promoting a spirit of fellowship within the school. (See Youth folder)

Eligibility: Units must have conducted the volunteer program described during the current school year. All PTSA units in good standing are eligible to apply. **One middle school-level winner and one high school-level winner will be selected from all applications submitted by March 1.**

SCPTA Award of Excellence in [Patriotism](#)

Purpose: To recognize local units that exhibit excellence in encouraging and engaging school/family/ as a means to increasing awareness of patriotism and the importance of our military, both active and including event celebrations, various activities, and/or on-going special patriotic programs.

Eligibility: Units must have conducted one or more patriotic programs during the current school year. All units in good standing are eligible to apply. **One elementary school-level winner, one middle school-level winner and one high school-level winner will be selected from all applications submitted by March 1.**

Awards of Achievement Recognition for Local Units

SCPTA Oak Leaf Awards — Exceeding the Standards Award for Local Units

Superior Award Excellent Award Good Award

SCPTA Palmetto Awards — Membership Dues Report *(no application required)*

Platinum Palmetto Award Silver Palmetto Award
Gold Palmetto Award Bronze Palmetto Award

100% Membership Award — Membership Dues Report *(no application required)*

Number of Memberships sold equals tenth day student enrollment

Top 10 Award— Membership Dues Report *(no application required)*

Local Units with highest percentage of members per enrollment

Local Units with 1,000 or more members

Greatest Increase in Membership Percentage— Membership Dues Report *(no application required)*

100 % Faculty Membership— Membership Dues Report *(no application required)*

SCPTA Membership Goal— Membership Dues Report *(no application required)*

Rookie Unit of the Year Award—Membership Dues Report *(no application required)*

New local units chartered in current school year

SCPTA Palmetto Awards — Membership Recognition

No applications are required for this recognition program. Awards will be given based on the Local Unit Membership Report forms submitted and kept in the South Carolina PTA office files.

Platinum Palmetto Award

- 100% membership by March 1st *(1 paid membership per student enrolled on the 10th day of school)*
- 100% faculty membership by March 1st *(equals the number of certified faculty employed on the 10th day of school)*
- Two or more consecutive years with 100% membership status

OR achieves a 5% increase over last year's 100% memberships reported

- Submitted all membership reports by the deadlines listed on the SCPTA [Membership Dues Report Form](#)

Gold Palmetto Award

- 100% membership by March 1st *(1 paid membership per student enrolled on the 10th day of school)*
- 100% faculty membership by March 1st *(equals the number of certified faculty employed on the 10th day of school)*
- Submitted all membership reports by the deadlines listed on the SCPTA [Membership Dues Report Form](#)

Silver Palmetto Award

- 75% membership by March 1st (*I paid membership per student enrolled on the 10th day of school*)
- 100% faculty membership by March 1st (*equals the number of certified faculty employed on the 10th day of school*)
- Submitted all membership reports by the deadlines listed on the SCPTA [Membership Dues Report Form](#)

Bronze Palmetto Award

- 50% membership by March 1st (*I paid membership per student enrolled on the 10th day of school*)
- 100% faculty membership by March 1st (*equals the number of certified faculty employed on the 10th day of school*)
- Submitted all membership reports by the deadlines listed on the SCPTA [Membership Dues Report Form](#)

SCPTA Oak Leaf Awards — Exceeding the Standards Award Program

The **Exceeding the Standards Award for Local Units** is **YOUR PLANNING TOOL**... your “guide to being a good unit.” It is used in the beginning to start to plan, used at intervals to be reminded of dated tasks or submissions, and used to suggest ideas to incorporate in the programming and activities of your unit during the year. *It is your guide to a successful year.*

It must be postmarked and submitted to the SCPTA Office by March 1st, along with any and ALL SCPTA award application entries, your SCPTA Membership Dues Report, and Helen Stokes Scholarship recommendations. Think of March 1st as the post-mark date “goal line” for paperwork to SCPTA, with several intermediate deadlines.

A local unit does not need to check every item to receive an SCPTA Oak Leaf Award. If the unit does most of the items, it is awarded a *Superior, Excellent or Good Leaf Certificate*, according to points accrued. This also indicates the unit accomplished the overall tasks of doing most of the actions a “good” PTA Unit should do! That unit should feel very proud of those efforts. Many units have several Oak Leaf Certificates framed and mounted in their school lobby... start your display of successful years!